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OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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A Penny for your Thoughts

Since the "to pay or not to pay" battle is raging, the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked this question:

"A pay-TV system has been proposed for the Los Angeles area. Would you be willing to subscribe if it were set up here? Why or why not?"

Bernadine Osley, 20829 S. Jamieson, clerk:

"I wouldn't want pay-TV. It would cost too much. I'm satisfied with the programs now. I do not like all the commercials, but it seems to be the best way to put the shows on."

Calvin Clark, 1518 Post Ave., real estate salesman:

"I think it would be beneficial to have pay-TV. It would mean better TV shows than we have now. I probably would subscribe to it."

Mrs. Lucy Brimer, 427 W. 228th St., housewife:

"Yes, I would be willing to subscribe. Those of us who do not have a chance to get out and see the current pictures could see them at home. It would probably mean better quality pictures."

Jack Garland, 3422 W. 228th Pl. fireman:

"I would not subscribe. I have enough trouble now with my TV set, but if I was paying for the program, I would really be mad. The quality of shows might be better, but I'd just as soon see them at a movie or on the stage. It probably would be too expensive as well."

William J. Frantz, 2270 Pacific Coast Hwy., insulator:

"I don't see any need for pay-TV. I do not watch TV much anyway, so I wouldn't subscribe. It would cost too much for what you would get. Commercials don't bother me much. When they come on, I get a glass of water."

Rivets Reports

If you were planning to have a picnic today, you'd better make other plans, according to Rivets, HERALD weatherdog. More rain is in prospect, adding to the inch which fell yesterday.

High and low temperatures this week included Thursday (61-48); Friday (65-48); and Saturday (62-47).

Flower Exhibition Set

"Kenbo" flower arrangements will be exhibited at the Japanese Community Center, 2000 Market St., Gardena, next Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. There will be a demonstration from 2 to 3 p.m.

Club Owner Claims \$36,800 From City in Flood Damage

Harbor Freeway Funds Allocated

The State Highway Department has appropriated an additional \$8,700,000 for additional construction on the Harbor Freeway, bringing it into the Torrance area as far as 190th St., according to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas.

The new funds are to extend the freeway from 124th St. to 190th St. A 2.6-mile link from 92nd St. to 124th St. is expected to be completed and ready for use by this July 30.

Thomas said he was told that \$6,000,000 has been appropriated for work on the new link in the 1958-59 fiscal year, with the remaining \$2,700,000 allotted for the following year.

The \$6,000,000 bids will be advertised early this summer, with work to begin shortly afterward, Thomas said.

The entire Harbor Freeway is expected to be completed within five years, if the present gas tax income remains the same, he reported.

A local delegation, headed by Councilman Nickolas O. Drale, were among those appearing before the State Highway Commission last year to plead for earlier construction of the freeway link to this area. Their efforts were credited with speeding up the construction schedule.

The trouble was at the General Petroleum Refinery where an equipment failure let too much oil into the gas lines. In the refining process, oil is mixed with the gas to purify it. The surplus oil passing through the refining equipment was the cause of the black smoke, although there was little damage to the equipment and no fire, according to GP officials.

The smoke brought smog officials running to the scene, but the trouble was repaired about 5:30.

There were a couple of real fires, however. Torrance firemen answered a call to a trailer at 21739 S. Western Thursday. Mrs. Floyd Argus told fire-fighters she was cleaning her hands with gasoline when fumes from a nearby water heater set the gas afire. She threw the pan of gas out of the door, setting the side of the trailer afire. She suffered burns on her hands.

A short in electric power tools caused about \$100 damage in a garage at the O. R. Nolan residence, 20105 Hawthorne Ave. The wall, a work bench, and some tools were damaged, with about \$100 loss.

Trio Accused Of Burglary

Three men booked on suspicion of grand theft have been turned over to Gardena police, according to Torrance officers.

The three are accused of removing 200 records from a truck in Gardena. The theft, which first was reported to have been committed in Torrance, later was discovered to be in Gardena territory.

The men arrested were Robert Ball, 28; Clarence W. Foreman, 26; and Ossie Bedford Jr., 29, all of Los Angeles.

Newton division detectives reportedly arrested the pair at a railroad yard where they were trying to sell the records. The Newton officers turned the trio over to Torrance police, according to local Detective Ralph Walker.

Female Impersonator Charged With Post Office Robbery Try

A female impersonator was arrested by Los Angeles Police in connection with an unsuccessful March 8 hold-up at the Harbor City Post Office, in which the manager, Mrs. Helen Hutson, was beaten over the head with a gun.

Arrested in a San Pedro hotel room was Ralph H. Carbajal, 21, San Pedro, who was held on suspicion of armed robbery. A second man, Lee H. Smith, 22, was arrested in Huntington Park for investigation in connection with the Post Office hold-up.

Police said Carbajal gave this account: Carbajal was hitch-hiking when he was picked up by Smith. Smith asked him to help cash some stolen money orders, and he agreed. The pair then decided to rob the Post Office at 25304 Belleporte Ave., Harbor City.

He had pulled some robberies in Riverside while clad as a woman and decided to repeat the attempt there. Carbajal and Smith went to the Post Office, where Carbajal, in female guise, went in and at



UP IN THE AIR . . . Miss Torrance Airport Day (Gaye Wilson) takes a ride on one of the newer modes of air travel, symbolizing the city's plans to hold an Airport Day, with open house, on May 3. Guided tours of the Torrance Municipal Airport and rides for citizens will be available on that day. (Herald Photo)

Post Office Here Ranked 43rd in 1957

Statewide ranking of the Torrance Post Office was boosted from 45th in 1956 to 43rd in 1957, it was announced yesterday at the region office of the Post Office Department in San Francisco.

Net receipts for 1957 were \$563,876.95, and pushed Torrance ahead of Alameda, El Monte, Salinas, Monterey, Vallejo, and Maywood during the year.

Redondo Beach moved from 76th to 72nd place, Inglewood maintained its ranking at 22nd, Compton dropped one notch to 33rd place, San Pedro dropped one to 41st, Gardena went from 56th to 48th, Hawthorne up one to 67th, El Segundo up two places to 76th, while Wilmington held on to its 75th place.

Other neighboring cities did not make the list which includes only offices exceeding \$200,000 in net revenue. One hundred and twenty-three offices in California exceeded that figure, including nine new ones not listed last year.

Guests at the planning session included officials of the city of Torrance, Chamber of Commerce, Civil Air Patrol, Civil Aeronautics Authority, Airport Commission, and representatives of the Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard, aircraft companies, and all industrial and commercial firms located on airport property.

Missing Want Ad Causes Trouble For St. Patrick

Old St. Patrick had his troubles, too.

He had to find living accommodations in old Ireland, and he was unable to check HERALD Want Ads to find the home of his choice.

If you are seeking a home, your troubles will be at a minimum and you'll feel like saying "Begorra" (Irish for "Wow!") when you see Classification 50 of HERALD Want Ads. You'll find columns and columns of good buys in homes and income property.

Check Classification 50 of Want Ads today.

'Airport Day' Set In City on May 3

Preliminary planning for "Torrance Airport Day" scheduled for May 3 was initiated by Citizens' Committee of 50 people at a luncheon held Thursday at the Battery D, 865 AAA Msl. Bn., member of the 47th AAA Brigade, Nike Site, in Torrance.

J. D. Thomas, managing superintendent of Douglas Aircraft's Torrance plant and aviation chairman of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, was named general chairman of the program designed to publicize the potential of the municipally owned airport.

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Adding beauty to the session was 19-year-old Gaye Wilson, who has been titled "Miss Torrance Airport." Gaye, a statuesque blonde beauty and "Miss Torrance" of 1956, was attired in an abbreviated Uncle Sam costume.

Possible events discussed were "open house" at the Nike Base and all industrial firms in the area, displays from all branches of the service and aircraft firms, sight-seeing flights, guided tours, Civil Air Patrol and National Guard demonstrations and fireworks.

Tract Leads Building Here During March

A 14-home tract led the list of \$772,640 in building permits issued during the first half of March, according to Evelyn Coles of the Department of Public Works. This brings the year's total to \$9,373,755.

The R. A. Watt Construction Co. took out permits for 14 homes in the 3800 blocks on 180th Pl., 181st and 182nd Sts., valued at \$180,800.

Second largest permit was for a crane runway at the Columbia Steel Co., 840 Border Ave., cost \$155,000.

Also taken out were permits for the Riviera Methodist Church, 375 Palos Verdes Blvd., \$65,000, and the Seaside Community Church education building, 22902 Ocean Ave., \$16,875.

Frank Morris took out a \$64,000 permit for an eight-unit apartment at 5401 Ruby St., to be used by Bishop Montgomery High School. Richard Page took out permits for four and eight-unit apartments at 2733 Cabrillo Ave., valued at a total of \$71,700.

A \$10,000 commercial building is planned by N. M. Gordon at 3809-11 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Business Loss, Repairs Cited

Charging that negligence of Torrance officials caused undermining and damage to the Hollywood Riviera Club during recent rains, Norton B. Wisdom last week filed a claim for \$36,807 against the city of Torrance.

During heavy rains this season, the north wing of the club, 201 Paseo de la Playa, was undermined by waters which washed away part of the pavement and formed a giant gorge at the beachfront property. During a Dec. 14 rain, a sports car was washed into the gorge as part of the street collapsed in front of the club. Heavy rains on Feb. 25 again caused damage and undermining.

Wisdom charged that the damage to his property was caused by negligence of the city of Torrance, in failing to maintain the streets and to set up an adequate drainage system.

He listed his losses, including \$22,820 for business which he said was lost or cancelled because the club had to be closed; \$8042 for repair and work; and \$5945 for damage to the building and furnishings.

The claim was filed by Cowan and Peterson, Redondo Beach attorneys.

Parents of the survivors said the county was to blame because of improper paving and poor lighting. County Counsel Harold Kennedy, however, said that the car went out of control during a race with another vehicle.

Courts have held, he said, that the county is obligated to provide highways for driving at normal speeds and not for "drag racing at a high rate of speed."

Claims include those for Quita Ann Stoniesfer, 204 W. 225th Pl., \$115,000; Cathi Hobbs, 1741 Lakme St., \$115,000; Henry H. Morales, Long Beach, \$110,000; and William J. Hayes, 1050 W. 227th St., \$850,000.

The other driver, Patricia Louis Huffman, 32, of 359 Paseo de Gracia, and the two Huffman youngsters, Gary, 10 and Robert, 12, were treated by a private physician.

Two passengers were injured in another accident Friday evening on Hawthorne Ave. and 182nd St.

Connie Landes, 10, and Cornell Landes, 36, were taken to a private physician, for treatment of minor injuries. They were passengers in an auto driven by Walter Henry Landes of Ann Arbor, Mich.

The other car was driven by Edythe Marie Crank, 4574 W. 162nd St., Lawndale.

Short Causes Fire

A short in the washer which caused a small fire at the Steve Haston home, 18832 Cordary Ave., was quickly extinguished by Torrance firemen, Monday.

That's the very reason we want to vote on the city attorney," Crain said, "so the council won't necessarily have control over his decisions."

Crain pointed out that a city attorney who serves at the pleasure of the council can be expected to render decisions he is sure the council expects.

"One-man government might be good if that's what the people want," Crain stated. He added that "we in North Torrance don't want it."

Proposals of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. that the office of city attorney be made elective will be taken back to that group's board of directors Wednesday night to determine the next steps the organization will take, President John G. L. Crain said yesterday.

The suggestion by the NTCIA that the city vote on the proposal to make the office elective was killed by a split decision of the council earlier this week.

This is a matter of decision for the people of Torrance, not the three wise men," Crain remarked yesterday. Councilmen Nick Drale and Willys Blount supported the NTCIA suggestion but were voted down by the majority after Councilman Bob Jahn said an elected city attorney could "be as arbitrary as he wished about opinions," and Mayor Isen said, "We would have no control over the attorney."

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